1	Clemmie Fleming - DIRECT  CLEMMIE FLEMING,
2	a black female called to testify as a witness by the State of
3	Mississippi, having first been duly sworn, testified as
4	follows, to-wit:
5	BY THE COURT: State your name, please.
6	BY THE WITNESS: Clemmie Fleming.
7	BY MR. EVANS: May I proceed, Your Honor?
8	BY THE COURT: Yes.
9	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. EVANS:
10	Q. Good morning, Ms. Fleming.
11	A. Good morning.
12	Q. Ms. Fleming, I want you to speak loud so that
13	everybody over here in the jury can hear you; okay?
14	A. (Witness nods her head.)
15	Q. Do you remember the morning in July, July the 16th,
16	1996, where the four people were killed at Tardy's Furniture?
17	A. Yes, sir.
18	Q. Did you have an occasion to go to town that
19	morning?
20	A. Yes, sir.
21	Q. Tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury why you
22	went to town that morning and about what time?
23	A. Because Ms. Tardy had kept calling my house, and I
24	supposed to be the one to pay on, you know, pay on my
25	furniture that morning. And I was pregnant, and I didn't
26	feel like getting out. So we had pulled up there in front of
27	Tardy's, and then I didn't get out. I told him to go in.
28	And the man I was with, he didn't get out. So we left.

Who did you get to carry you to Tardy Furniture?

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Q.

Clemmie Fleming - DIRECT

A. Roy Harris.

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- Q. And you were going there to pay on a furniture bill?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. And why did you not get out?
  - A. I didn't feel like it.
    - Q. Okay, but I don't know -- I couldn't hardly hear why you said that while ago. Why did you not feel like getting out?
      - A. I was pregnant.
        - Q. And how far along were you?
- 12 A. Like five and a half months pregnant.
- Q. Okay. So you didn't feel like getting out to pay on your bill, so y'all drove on by?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. Which direction did you go from Tardy Furniture?
- A. On the side of Tardy's like -- what is the name of that street on the side? On the side of Tardy's?
  - Q. Is it Carrollton?
- 20 A. Carrollton Avenue.
- 21 BY MR. CARTER: I object.
- 22 BY THE COURT: Overruled.
- 23 BY MR. EVANS:
- Q. All right, once you turned on to Carrollton, which direction did you go then?
  - A. I went straight up like, straight up like you are going toward Powell Street.
- Q. Okay. Do you know a person by the name of Curtis Flowers?

1385 Clemmie Fleming - DIRECT 1 Α. Yes, sir. 2 Q. Do you see him in the courtroom today? Yes, sir. 3 Α. Would you point to him and identify him, please. 4 Q. Right there. 5 Α. 6 BY MR. EVANS: May the record reflect that she 7 has identified the Defendant, Curtis Flowers? BY THE COURT: Let the record reflect that. 8 BY MR. EVANS: 9 10 Q. Once you turned on to Carrollton Street, did you 11 see anyone? 12 Α. I seen Curtis. You seen Curtis? 13 Ο. 14 Α. Yes, sir. 15 Q. Where did you see him? Like it was a big tree. It was a big tree on the, 16 Α. 17 like on the left-hand side of the road, and I seen him right 18 there running right along up in there. 19 All right, now you are going to need to speak a little louder. 20 21 Α. I seen him running right along up in there. 22 You saw him running? Q. 23 Α. Yes, sir.

- Q. Was he running towards or away from the direction of Tardy's store?
  - A. Away from the store.

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- Q. And when you first saw him, about how far was he away from the building of Tardy's?
  - A. Like 90 something feet.

Clemmie Fleming - DIRECT

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Q. Okay. Now did anybody go back out there with you to determine how far it was?

- A. John Johnson.
- Q. Okay. So he was about 90 feet from the store running away from it when you first saw him?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. What brought your attention to Curtis Flowers that morning?
- A. I just seen him running, and I ain't never seen him run like that.
  - Q. You ain't never seen him run like that?
  - A. I figured something was wrong.
  - Q. Can you describe how he was running?
- 14 A. I, say I guess like somebody was after him.
- Q. And what made you think that?
  - A. The way he was running.
  - Q. How long had you known Curtis Flowers at that time?
  - A. I been knowing him because he like, he stayed down the road from my mama's house. We ain't never stayed too far from each other.
  - Q. Okay, so you have known him most of your life?
    - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. Once you saw him running there, did you see which direction he went from there?
- 25 A. We had turned the curve.
  - Q. Okay. What was the last point at that time that you saw him running?
    - A. Going across the yard of the pink house.
      - Q. He was running across the yard where the pink house

Clemmie Fleming - DIRECT
is?

A. Yes, sir.

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- Q. Now is that pink house still there?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. Which direction did you go after you saw him running from the direction of Tardy's and running across that yard?
  - A. Like down Powell Street.
  - Q. Okay.
  - A. And then we went like on the highway.
- Q. Did you have an occasion to see him again?
- 12 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Where did you see him at that time?
- 14 A. Like he fixing to cross the highway.
- Q. About what time did you leave your house to go pay on your bill that morning?
  - A. About 10:00, something around to 10:00, about around 10:00 something.
  - O. Somewhere around 10:00?
- 20 A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. About how long did it take you to get to the store?
- 22 A. I would say about five minutes.
- Q. Okay. And how long did you sit at the store before y'all pulled on around on to Carrollton Street?
- 25 | A. We didn't sit no time. We didn't sit no time.
- Q. All right, now who carried you down to there to pay on your bill?
- 28 A. Roy Harris.
- Q. Is he a relative, friend, or--

Clemmie Fleming - DIRECT

A. A friend.

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- Q. Okay. Now after you made the round that you have described and you saw him crossing the highway, so that the jury will understand where, is there any kind of businesses in the area where he crossed the highway?
  - A. Jeff's store.
  - O. Jeff's store?
  - A. Yes, sir.

BY MR. EVANS: Your Honor, I will tender the witness. Wait one second.

(State's Counsel confer.)

## BY MR. EVANS:

- Q. Yeah. Ms. Fleming, I want to show you Exhibit 5A and ask if you can tell what this is?
- A. It's the one, that's the side of the turn road that I seen him on beside Tardy's.
- Q. That's the same road you saw him on. Do you see the approximate area on this picture that you first saw him?
  - A. Yes, sir. Where that car is.
  - O. About where the car is at?
- 21 | A. Uh-hum.

(Exhibit shown to Counsel opposite.)

- Q. Ms. Fleming, I want to hand you Exhibit S-5A back, and I will ask you to just put a red "X" about the place he was when you first saw him?
  - A. (Witness marks on Exhibit S-5A.)
- Q. All right, if you would darken that just a little bit because it doesn't show up real well on there.
  - A. (Witness complies.)

Five and a half.

And you asked Mr. uh.

Roy to take you down there?

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Q.

Roy.

1 A. Yeah.

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- Q. How were you feeling when you asked Mr. Roy to take you down there?
  - A. I didn't feel good, but I just wanted her to stop calling me.
    - Q. Okay, so you went down there to pay it?
  - A. Uh-hum.
  - Q. How did you feel when you got there right there in front of Ms. Tardy's store?
  - A. I didn't feel good. I didn't feel like getting out, so I didn't.
    - Q. You didn't feel good either time?
  - A. Uh-uh.
    - Q. You didn't feel good when you left; is that correct?
      - A. No.
      - Q. And you didn't feel good when you got to the store?
    - A. (No response.)
- 19 Q. And you asked Mr. Roy to go in and pay it for you?
- 20 A. Yeah.
  - Q. Now this is the first time that you are saying this? Is that correct?
  - A. I asked him. I asked him to go in for me, and he didn't want to go in. So I went for my-- I was going to go in myself.
  - Q. Okay, did you tell John Johnson that you asked Mr. Roy to go in?
- 28 A. I don't know if I told him or not.
  - Q. Okay. Now you did talk to John Johnson, didn't

A. Yes.

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- Q. Who else did you talk to with the police department or the DA's Office?
  - A. A lot. Like two more men. I don't know.
  - Q. Did you talk to Mr. Evans?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Now isn't it a fact that you didn't give a statement about this until April 11, 1997?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And that is seven or eight months later; is that correct?
  - A. Yes, sir.
    - Q. Did you know about a reward by that time?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. You hadn't seen it in the paper?
  - A. It just doesn't-- I didn't pay it, I didn't pay, I didn't pay that stuff no attention. I had told a girl that I was working with, and she told them. And I told her not to tell, and then she told it anyway. That's how I ended up in court telling you.
    - Q. Okay, did you tell John Johnson that?
    - A. No.
      - Q. What you just said.
- 25 A. She said she had a friend she wanted me to talk to.
- Q. Did you tell John Johnson what you are telling the Court?
- 28 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Are you sure of that? So that should be in your

Clemmie Fleming - CROSS statement; is that correct?

- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Was your statement taped?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Okay, did you sign anything?
- 6 A. No, sir.

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- Q. What was that other lady's name again?
- A. Wanda Meeks.
- Q. So you was behind on your bill; you were getting calls. You didn't really feel like it or feel good, but you decided to hire somebody, and you did hire Mr. Harris; is that correct?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. To take you to Tardy's. You got to Tardy's. You parked there momentarily; is that correct?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. How long were you there?
  - A. Like, we wasn't there long.
- 19 Q. How long were you there?
  - A. Like a few seconds, then we left.
  - Q. Few seconds. Did you say Mr. Harris, "Wait; give me a moment to see if I feel any better"?
    - A. No, sir.
  - Q. So you did -- you weren't able to, you didn't feel like you were able to walk into the store and pay the bill; is that correct?
- A. I didn't, I didn't feel good. I feel sick at the stomach.
  - Q. Feel sick at your stomach. So where did Mr. Harris

Clemmie Fleming - CROSS take you after that?

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- A. My sister's house.
- Q. Okay, and you got out at your sister's house and went inside, didn't you?
  - A. Uh-hum.
- Q. And you stayed over there, and you talked to your sisters, didn't you?
  - A. Uh-hum.
  - Q. How many sisters did you see?
  - A. Two.
  - Q. How long did you stay there?
- 12 A. Not that long.
- 13 Q. How long is not that long?
- 14 A. I don't know. Maybe five or ten minutes. I don't know.
  - Q. Then you-- and did you ask anybody to take you back to Tardy's so you could pay your bill?
    - A. I went home and went to sleep.
- 19 Q. Did you ever pay that bill?
  - A. My brother supposed to have been paying it off.
- 21 Q. Did you ever pay--
  - A. -- no.
- Q. Did you go to the doctor since you wasn't feeling well?
- 25 A. No.
  - Q. You didn't need to go, did you?
- A. Not just being pregnant, not go to no doctor for being pregnant and I know why I'm sick.
  - Q. Okay, did you ask your sisters for any medicine?

1 A. No.

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- Q. Did you even tell your sisters you were too sick to go into Tardy's?
  - A. Uh-uh.
  - Q. What is your sister's name?
  - A. Mary Fleming.
    - Q. What is the other one's name?
    - A. Neecie Fleming.
  - Q. So Mr. Harris told you he wasn't walking in the store and paying the bill for you; is that what you are telling the Court?
    - A. He told me to go in there and pay it myself.
    - Q. How many times did you ask him to go do it for you?
- 14 A. Once.
  - Q. Did you offer him money to go in the store--
- 16 A. -- I gave him.
- 17 Q. --and pay it for you?
- 18 | A. No, sir.
  - Q. But you paid him to take you down there; is that correct?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. Was he reluctant to take you down to the store?
- 23 A. He didn't mind.
  - Q. He wouldn't have minded going in there paying the bill either, would he?
    - A. He didn't go.
  - Q. Was he mean or obstinate when he said no?
- A. He just said he wasn't going in there. We wanted me to go for myself.

- Q. Did you ask him to hold on a minute; let me see if I feel like walking later?
  - A. No.

Q. Now isn't it a fact that you could have -- and clarify this for me. I don't want to be wrong. Had you desired -- one moment.

(Defense Counsel confer.)

- Q. Isn't it a fact that had you desired so, that you could have, that you were physically able to walk in that store and pay that bill?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. What did Mr. Flowers have on when you allegedly saw him running?
- A. I didn't pay no attention to what he had on. I just knew that was him. I seen his face. I know him when I see him.
  - Q. Okay, you didn't notice any clothing at all?
  - A. I don't pay no attention to nobody's clothes.
- Q. So you saw a person running. But you didn't pay any attention to the clothing?
  - A. No, sir.
- Q. Now what about Mr. Flowers, what about that person running that indicated to you that he was running like somebody was after him?
- A. Because of the way he was running like if somebody was behind him or something. I don't know.
  - Q. Okay, what did he do? Did you see him look around?
- A. No.
  - Q. So he wasn't running looking back from side to

Clemmie Fleming - CROSS
side; is that correct?

A. No, sir.

- Q. Did you see a weapon or anything?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. Could you tell us, could you clarify for me since you believe he was running like somebody was after him, what was it about his behavior other than the fact that he was running that made you think somebody was after him, or he was acting like somebody was after him?
  - A. That's all. He was just running.
- Q. And you said he was running from-- how do you know he was running from Tardy's?
- A. I didn't say he was running from Tardy's. I said he was running from that direction.
- Q. But he was also running from the direction of the cleaners there. Wasn't there a cleaners there?
  - A. Uh-hum.
  - Q. There was a Coast to Coast there; right?
  - A. Right.
    - Q. A Weed Brothers?
- 21 A. Uh-hum.
  - Q. There is a lot of things downtown, banks, various other places; is that correct?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. So you really don't know where he was running from, do you?
  - A. No.
  - Q. And you never saw him go towards Tardy's; is that correct?

A. No, sir.

- Q. You never saw him on Tardy's property; is that correct?
  - A. No, sir.
- Q. Now this thing about asking Roy Harris to go in the store and pay your bill; I hope I haven't asked this before. I apologize if I did. I don't remember. Do you remember telling any of the investigators that you asked Mr. Harris to go in and pay the bill for you and he rejected? He objected, said no?
  - A. I don't know.
- Q. When you saw this person running, do you know if you were the only person who saw him running?
  - A. Roy seen him.
  - Q. How do you know?
  - A. Because he looked at him too.
- Q. So you were watching the person running, and then you was watching Mr. Harris too, and you saw Mr. Harris watching him?
  - A. Roy looked. He slowed up.
- Q. Okay, what side -- I'm trying to be clear. When you saw this person running on Carrollton, you all were on Carrollton going toward Church; is that correct?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. Was this person in front of you or behind you?
- A. He was in front. We were passing by, and he was in front of us, and then we passed on by him.
  - Q. Was he on the left side of you or the right side?
    - A. On the left.

- So you had to look -- he was on Mr. Harris' side? Q.
- Α. Yes, sir.
- Had he gotten completely to Church by the time you 0. saw him?
  - Α. No, sir.
- And you all left at that point, and you turned on Q. Church; is that correct?
  - Yes, sir. Α.
  - You turned left. Where did you go after Church? Q.
- Up Powell, up the, straight up and then got on Α. Powell.
  - Make a right on Powell? Q.
  - Α. Yes, sir.
- And Powell will take you to 51; is that correct? Q.
- 15 Α. Yes, sir.
- Q. And by the time you got to 51, you saw this person running again? 17
  - Α. Yes, sir.
    - So this person outran the truck and got to 51 by the time you got there?
    - Α. Well, I seen him again. I seen him on the side like coming across the highway.
    - Q. Now which way did this person run? Did you see this person running turn on Church? This person didn't run up Church, did they?
      - Α. No, sir.
    - And did they run-- you didn't see them running down Q. Powell, did you?
      - Α. No, sir.

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- Q. But this person was running so fast that they apparently outran the truck and was at Powell by the time you got there; is that correct?
  - A. Well.

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- Q. By the time you got to 51; I'm sorry. I'm not trying to confuse you. I promise.
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. Now Mr. Harris didn't stop anywhere, did he?
- A. Uh-uh.
  - Q. Do you know if this person had on a cap or not?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. So this person, when you saw this person about 51, this person was still running wide open?
  - A. They were running.
- Q. Was they running faster, slower or about the same as when you saw him on Carrollton?
  - A. Well, I could just tell that they were running.
- Q. Now I believe you said earlier -- correct me if I'm wrong -- that when you saw them first, they were running wide open like somebody was after them; is that correct?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. But by the time you got to Powell, you saw the person running, but you are not sure whether they were running wide open at that point or like somebody was after them; is that correct?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Do you know a Stacy Wright?
- 28 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Do you know Latarsha Blissett?

A. Yes, sir.

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- Q. Do you owe Tardy's money now?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. If you never paid that bill, how is it that you don't owe any money?
- A. Because my brother supposed to have been paying it off.
  - Q. Supposed to have been or did?
- A. I don't know if he did or not. We ain't never talk about it no more.
- Q. Okay, and you haven't been hounded by Tardy's Furniture store any more about coming to pay it either, have you?
  - A. No, sir.
  - Q. Now was that furniture ever taken from you?
  - A. I gave it to my sister.
- Q. But you were, in fact, told when you were sent letters and called that if you didn't come pay it, it was going to be taken, wasn't you? Weren't you told that?
  - A. Yes, sir.
    - Q. Latarsha Blissett is your friend; right?
- A. My cousin.
- 23 Q. Your cousin. Stacy Wright is your friend; right?
- 24 A. My cousin.
- 25 Q. Your cousins. Aren't they also your friends?
- 26 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Now when you went down to Tardy's, what time was it?
- 29  $\blacksquare$  A. Like going on 10:00.

- Q. Going on 10:00. You didn't see any police cars at that time; right?
  - A. No, sir.
  - Q. You didn't hear any sirens?
  - A. No.

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- Q. Were there any cars parked at Tardy's besides you and Mr. Harris?
- A. It was some cars parked.
  - Q. Was anybody in the store?
  - A. I don't know. I ain't never got out and went in.
  - Q. Okay. Did the store look like it was open?
  - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. You had got called that morning to come down there, didn't you, or did you get called that--
  - A. -- that night.
- Q. That night. One moment. I think I'm finished.

  (Defense Counsel confer.)
- 18 Q. Ms. Fleming.
- 19 **I** A. Yes.
  - Q. When you went to your sister Mary's house, did you tell Mary that you saw somebody running from Tardy's or running in that area?
  - A. I told her a couple of days later. I didn't tell her the same day.
    - Q. You didn't tell her the same day?
- 26 A. No, sir.
- 27 BY MR. CARTER: Now that's all. We tender.
- 28 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. EVANS:
  - Q. Ms. Fleming, the 90 feet from Tardy's that you say

Clemmie Fleming - REDIRECT

the Defendant was when you first saw him running, who made

that measurement?

- A. Me and Mr. John Johnson.
- Q. Were you present when he measured where you said you saw him?
  - A. Yes, sir.

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- Q. And when you first told Wanda Meeks that you saw him, Curtis Flowers running from Tardy's, when did you tell her?
- A. I told her -- we was at work, and we was on our lunch break. And I was telling her about it, and I told her, don't say nothing. And she said she had friends she wanted to talk, that wanted to talk to me about it.
- Q. Why did you ask her not to tell anybody that you saw Curtis?
  - A. Because I wasn't going to say nothing.
  - Q. You didn't want to get involved?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Now what direction did y'all go once you turned off of Carrollton?
  - A. Like straight up and then we went on Powell.
  - Q. Went on Powell. Which direction did you go then?
- 23 A. Went on down to the highway.
  - O. Down to where?
  - A. To the highway. To 51 and came up.
- 26 BY MR. CARTER: I couldn't hear her.
- 27 BY THE COURT: Speak up, Ms. Fleming.
- 28 BY THE WITNESS:
- 29 A. 51. On 51. We went on 51.

Clemmie Fleming - REDIRECT

- Q. Okay, and then you came back up the highway towards Jeff's store?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. Now so you didn't go straight from where you saw him to the highway; is that correct?
    - A. No, sir.

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- Q. You were coming back up the highway when you saw him running across the highway?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. So he didn't have to outrun the vehicle, did he?
  - A. No, sir.
- Q. Now there has been a lot of discussion about how he was running. When you first saw him running there behind Tardy's store, was he jogging, running wide open, or what was he doing?
  - A. I guess he was running wide open.
- Q. Do you know how much your brother has paid on your furniture bill?
  - A. No, sir.
- Q. Now you have been asked about Latarsha Blissett and Stacy Wright. Do you know if either one of them have connections with the Defendant?
  - A. Yes, sir.
  - Q. What are their connections to the Defendant?
  - A. Tarsha go with his cousin.
  - Q. Is this Defendant the person you saw running behind Tardy's?
- A. Yes, sir.
- BY MR. EVANS: Nothing further, Your Honor.

1404 Patricia Sullivan - DIRECT BY THE COURT: Is she finally excused? 1 BY MR. EVANS: Yes, sir. 2 BY THE COURT: Mr. Fleming, you are free to go. 3 WITNESS EXCUSED. 4 BY MR. EVANS: Patricia Hallmon. 5 BY THE COURT: Has she been sworn? 6 7 BY MR. EVANS: No, sir. She wasn't here. (While waiting on the witness to enter the 8 9 courtroom, a Sheriff's Deputy confers with Mr. Evans.) 10 BY MR. EVANS: Your Honor, he is asking about the last two witnesses being excused. The State has 11 released them, but before I tell him to let them go, I 12 need to make sure that the Defense doesn't want to 13 14 keep them. BY MR. DE GRUY: They can be released. 15 BY THE COURT: 16 Okay. 17 PATRICIA HALLMON SULLIVAN, 18 a black female called to testify as a witness by the State of 19 Mississippi, having first been duly sworn, testified as follows, to-wit: 20 21 BY THE COURT: Have a seat up here, ma'am. 22 your name. 23 BY THE WITNESS: Patricia Sullivan. 24 BY MR. EVANS: May I proceed, Your Honor? 25 BY THE COURT: Yes. 26 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. EVANS: 27 All right, Ms. Sullivan, directing your attention Ο. back to July the 16th, 1996, were you Patricia Hallmon at 28

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that time?